

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

- P R O C E E D I N G S

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS

OF THE

SOLDIERS' NATIONAL CEMETERY
ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT PHILADELPHIA,

ON

THE 7th OF DECEMBER, 1864.



PROVIDENCE:
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PROCEEDINGS.

PHILADELPHIA, December 7th, 1864.

THE annual meeting of the SOLDIERS' NATIONAL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION was held at the Continental Hotel, in the City of Philadelphia, at 5 o'clock, this day.

DAVID WILLS, President of the Association, in the chair.

The Secretary, JOHN R. BARTLETT, called the roll of the Commissioners of the several States, when the following gentlemen answered to their names.

B. W. NORRIS,	of Maine.
HENRY EDWARDS,	" Massachusetts.
PAUL DILLINGHAM,	" Vermont.
JOHN R. BARTLETT,	" Rhode Island.
EDWARD COOPER,	" New York.
LEVI SCOBAY,	" New Jersey.
DAVID WILLS,	" Pennsylvania.
JOHN R. LATIMER,	" Delaware.
BENJAMIN DEFORD,	" Maryland.
GORDON LOFLAND,	" Ohio.
CHESTER D. HUBBARD,	" West Virginia.
CLARK E. CARR,	" Illinois.
THOMAS WHITE FERRY,	" Michigan.
W. Y. SELLECK,	" Wisconsin.

The Commissioners of New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Indiana were absent.

The President presented letters from ALFRED COIT, Esq., of Connecticut, and Gov. RAMSEY, of Minnesota, stating the reasons for their absence.

The President submitted his Report of the financial condition and management of the Association, which was read by the Secretary.

On motion, the report was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The President submitted the Report of SAMUEL R. RUSSELL, Esq., the Treasurer of the Association, which was read by the Secretary.

On motion, the report was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

The Auditing Committee stated that they had examined the Treasurer's account by comparing the accompanying vouchers with the corresponding items in the account, which they had found correct, and had accordingly appended their certificate to the same.

The Auditing Committee also stated that they had examined the exhibit of expenditures accompanying the Report of the President, which they had found correct, and appended their certificate accordingly to the same.

Mr. LATIMER, from the Executive Committee, submitted their Report, which was read by the Secretary.

On motion, the report was accepted and ordered to be placed on file.

On motion of Mr. CARR, the Reports of the President, the Treasurer, and the Executive Committee, were ordered to be printed for the use of the Board.

Mr. WOOD, of the firm of Wood & Perot, was introduced by the Executive Committee, and laid on the table photographs from the designs for the iron fence and gateway of the Cemetery, which were distributed to the several Commissioners.

On motion of Mr. COOPER, of New York, the thanks of the Board were presented to Messrs. Wood & Perot for the several copies of the designs presented by them.

On motion of Mr. COOPER, the words "National Cemetery" were directed to be placed upon the proposed gateway.

On motion of Mr. COOPER, the several reports were taken up and considered.

Gov. DILLINGHAM moved that the proposed head stones to be placed at the graves of the soldiers in the National Cemetery be made of granite.

Mr. DEFORD moved an amendment to substitute marble for the proposed head stones.

A considerable discussion was elicited on the question, which of the two materials should be employed, in which the durability and expense of each was considered.

The question being taken upon Mr. DEFORD's amendment, to employ marble, it was lost.

The vote was then taken upon Gov. DILLINGHAM's motion, and carried by the following vote.

Ayes. Messrs. B. W. Norris, Henry Edwards, Paul Dillingham, John R. Bartlett, Edward Cooper, Levi Scobey, David Wills, C. D. Hubbard, Gordon Lofland, W. Y. Selleck, T. W. Ferry. 11.

Nays. Messrs. Benjamin Deford, J. R. Latimer, Clark E. Carr. 3.

Mr. NORRIS, of Maine, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary of this Board be a Committee in its behalf to memorialize the Congress of the United States now in session, at Washington, to appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars to the Soldiers' National Cemetery, for the erection of a monument to the memory of the soldiers who fell in the memorable battles at Gettysburg, on the first, second and third days of July, 1863.

Mr. SCOBAY, of New Jersey, submitted the following resolution, which was passed.

Resolved, That the President be requested to address the Governors of the several States which have made appropriations for the Soldier's

National Cemetery, at Gettysburg, apprising them that the amount thus far contributed by their Legislatures is inadequate to carry out the plans of the Association, in consequence of the great advance in labor, the cost of materials and the adoption of a design for a monument costing about forty thousand dollars more than originally estimated for ; and that he ask them to procure from their Legislatures an additional appropriation, equal to the sum originally asked for, for the purpose of completing the Soldiers' National Monument at Gettysburg, in case the amount required shall not be granted by the Congress of the United States, for the same object.

Mr. LATIMER, of Maryland, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the Secretary notify the Executives of the respective States, the terms of whose Commissioners will expire on the first of January, 1865, in order that the vacancies thus produced may be promptly filled.

Mr. LATIMER also submitted the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted.

WHEREAS, by resolution of the Board passed at the meeting held April 6th, 1864, DAVID WILLS was appointed General Superintendent of the Cemetery for the current year ; and whereas, the fiscal year closes on the 30th day of November, and the annual meeting of the Board held on the first Wednesday of December ; Be it *resolved* that DAVID WILLS be, and he is hereby, re-appointed General Superintendent from the first day of December, for one year, and the sum of one hundred dollars per month be continued to be paid him, for his services from said date.

Mr. LATIMER also submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the President be requested to renew applications to the various railroad companies for free tickets over their roads for the Commissioners, traveling in discharge of their duties, in going to and from Gettysburg.

On motion of Mr. COOPER, of New York, the Board proceeded to the election of officers of the Soldiers' National Cemetery Association for the ensuing year.

Ballots were distributed to the several members, when the following officers were elected.

President, DAVID WILLS, of Pennsylvania.
Secretary, JOHN R. BARTLETT, " Rhode Island.

On motion, Mr. SAMUEL R. RUSSELL, of Gettysburg, was re-elected Treasurer of the Association for the ensuing year, upon his giving bonds for \$20,000, as required by the act of incorporation.

The following gentlemen were elected the Auditing Committee.

JOHN R. BARTLETT, of Rhode Island.
HENRY EDWARDS, " Massachusetts.
GORDON LOFLAND, " Ohio.

On motion, the President of the Board was appointed ex-officio a member of the Executive Committee.

Mr. SELLECK, of Wisconsin, was appointed a member of the Executive Committee.

On motion, it was voted that the Commissioner of the State of New York be a member of the Executive Committee.

On motion of Mr. CARR, of Illinois, it was voted that the next annual meeting of this Board be held in the city of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. FERRY, of Michigan, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That a special tablet be authorized, upon which, under the direction of the Executive Committee, the names of all who were killed, or died of wounds received at the battles of Gettysburg, and were buried elsewhere, so far as may be known, shall be appropriately inscribed, together with the places of their interment.

A lithographic engraving of the proposed monument to be erected in the Soldiers' National Cemetery, was received from Mr. BATTERSON, the architect.

Mr. NORRIS, of Maine, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be presented to Mr. BARTLETT, for the very acceptable manner in which he has discharged the duties of Secretary during the year now closing.

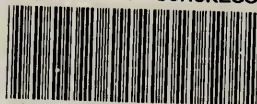
On motion, the proceedings of this meeting were ordered to be printed by the Secretary, and distributed to the members of the Board.

Adjourned.

JOHN R. BARTLETT,

Secretary.

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